United Nations E/C.2/2010/2/Add.62

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
25 March 2010

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2010 regular session
26 May-4 June 2010

Quadrennial reports for the period 2005-2008 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

Contents

		Page
1.	Council on Economic Priorities	2
2.	Crime Stoppers International	4
3.	English International Association of Lund (Sweden)	6
4.	Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education	8
5.	Navjyoti: Delhi Police Foundation for Correction, De-Addiction and Rehabilitation	10
6.	Zonta International	11

10-29180 (E) 210510

Please recycle

1. Council on Economic Priorities

Special, 1997

I. Introduction

The Council on Economic Priorities, now known as Social Accountability International, is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving workplaces and communities by developing and implementing social responsibility standards. The organization brings together companies, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and governments to conduct research training and technical assistance programmes It works with international brands and retailers, including Chiquita, Dole, Gap, Timberland and Gucci, various trade unions representing over 15 million workers, and such non-governmental organizations as Rainforest Alliance, the World Wildlife Fund and CARE. The organization partners with a global network of auditing groups known as "certification bodies", which certify companies and production facilities to the Social Accountability 8000 standard. Developed and overseen by the organization, the SA8000 is a leading standard that incorporates third-party monitoring and innovative management systems. It is based on International Labour Organization (ILO) and United Nations conventions and incorporates strict principles relating to human rights in the workplace. As a voluntary standard, Social Accountability 8000 provides a sustainable framework for improved social performance that is robust but flexible and pragmatic.

The organization operates globally, with offices in China, Brazil, India, Nicaragua, the Netherlands and the United States of America. During the reporting period, funding grew by 55 per cent. The number of donors also increased significantly with corporations, individuals, foundations and government agencies providing income streams. The organization signed memorandums of understanding or established joint programmes with the Business Social Compliance Initiative, the Ethical Trading Initiative and the International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling Alliance.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization participated in a variety of United Nations meetings, including those of the Council. It also attended a briefing session on forced labour and a workshop organized by ILO.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The organization prepared or contributed to research papers and studies, co-sponsored meetings and carried out humanitarian activities or operational projects. For example, it conducted case studies on the use, by participants in the

United Nations Global Compact, of the SA8000 standard, as a tool for implementing labour rights commitments.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization contributed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Central America, South America, Africa and Asia. Major actions undertaken were the following:

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; target 2: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people. The organization's implementation of labour rights and wage standards, as defined in the SA8000 standard, covers over 1 million workers in over 1,850 certified facilities in 66 countries.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women; target 1: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than by 2015. The promotion of the SA8000 standard in the garment industry, where 80 per cent of the workers are women, ensures that women are protected from discriminatory practices within the workplace and promotes stability for their families.

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability; target 1: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources. The organization's work in agriculture in China and Central America (Nicaragua, Honduras and the Dominican Republic) assists in the implementation of sustainable organic farming of such crops as cotton, sugar cane, melons and coffee. In China, the "Made By China" programme is a joint initiative launched by the organization and the Netherlands-based international network "Solidaridad". The main objectives of the joint project are to bring global markets directly to smallholder cotton farmers and to facilitate the setup of a vertical apparel chain compliant with the socially responsible SA8000 standard. In Central America, the organization's "Project Cultivar" aims to increase the capacity of employers, workers, trade unions and government ministries to develop a culture of compliance with national and international labour laws.

Target 2: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss. The organization works with the World Wildlife Fund on the development of integrated environmental and social standards in aquaculture. The Fund works with farmers, retailers, non-governmental organizations, scientists and other aquaculture industry stakeholders worldwide to develop standards for responsible aquaculture. The organization contributed to the development of the standard for responsible tilapia production and is preparing to participate in multi-stakeholder dialogues on other species, starting with the pangasius fish in Viet Nam.

2. Crime Stoppers International

Special, 2005

I. Introduction

The mission of Crime Stoppers International is to create a safe and secure world for our children and grandchildren by helping to stop, solve and prevent crime. To that end, it establishes community-operated crime stoppers programmes comprised of three parts: a local board of directors that raises funds to pay rewards for tips, a police coordinator who receives the tips from the crime stoppers anonymous tips line and the media who broadcast and print the weekly "crime of the week" or the "most wanted" announcements and re-enactments. Each component works with the local business community and citizens to build public awareness of the use and availability of the anonymous crime stoppers system.

Since acquiring special consultative status in 2005, Crime Stoppers International has launched new Crime Stoppers programmes in Hyderabad, India (March 2007), Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda and the United States Virgin Islands (2008). It is currently working with the Netherlands police and other agencies to assess the feasibility of beginning a programme in Nigeria; the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has made enquiries about setting up a Crime Stoppers programme there.

The president of the organization has been instrumentally involved with representatives from the Government of Mexico and local businessmen to set up a Crime Stoppers programme in a particular region of Mexico.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, Crime Stoppers International met frequently with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs. The Office views Crime Stoppers as a valuable tool for global communications and logistics in regional projects and recognizes its important role in combating organized crime. Crime Stoppers is a proven method of securing intelligence and a useful aid in the law enforcement investigation process.

In February 2008, the organization participated in a forum in Vienna organized under the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking. Throughout 2008, Crime Stoppers programmes in both the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Canada helped to increase overall awareness of the issue of human trafficking and extended their tip networks to identify human trafficking activity. In August 2008, a meeting on human trafficking was held at the Crime Stoppers International training conference in Des Moines, Iowa, at which senior law enforcement representatives from the United States Marshals Service, the United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police made presentations on human trafficking and the efforts being made in their countries to deal with the issue. An actual survivor of human trafficking spoke about what had happened to him while under the control of a trafficker. His presentation highlighted the need for organizations such as the United Nations and Crime Stoppers

International to continue to work together to combat this human atrocity. At the conference Crime Stoppers programmes from around the world confirmed their commitment to promoting the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.

3. English International Association of Lund (Sweden)

Special, 1997

I. Introduction

The aim of the English International Association of Lund is to promote the human right to peace, development, non-discrimination and equality, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all subsequent conventions and protocols.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

During the period 2005-2008, the organization gradually became more focused on the work of the Council and the Millennium Development Goals. Activities included the expansion of its strategies to promote democracy, equality, justice and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa; the publication of studies on the Goals; participation in a number of Council conferences and a session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in Geneva in 2008; and the publication of brochures on the rights of migrant workers, as called for in the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and the Members of Their Families. Scarcity of funds remained one big challenge that hindered more participation by EIA representatives in Economic and Social Council meetings and events.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The organization continued its cooperation with the Department of Public Information and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. During the reporting period, it participated in the annual International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (21 March); maintained communication with a number of national and international non-governmental organizations involved in the protection of migrant workers; upgraded information on Swedish and international human rights laws protecting all persons from discrimination, in accordance with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; attended education sessions arranged by the migration studies department of Malmö University (Sweden), the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at Lund University, the European Network against Racism and the office of the Swedish Ombudsman against Ethnic Discrimination; and conducted study groups on the protection of the human rights of migrant workers.

The organization adopted a five-year plan to expand its human rights information, education and assistance programmes to include other vulnerable groups. The plan includes the monitoring of the Swedish national plan for human rights (2006-2009) and the examination of Sweden's and other States' reports to the human rights monitoring bodies of the United Nations, ILO and regional instruments.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1: With respect to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa, the organization focused on researching the phenomenon of African migration within and beyond the continent and held seminars and conferences on solutions to the problem of poverty in Africa. It also published a number of books on the protection of migrant workers' rights.

4. Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education*

Special, 1997

I. Introduction

Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education works to advance democracy, human development, peace and social justice through human rights education programmes. Established in 1967 by an eminent group of Canadian scholars and jurists, Equitas is a non-profit, non-governmental organization incorporated under the laws of Canada. In 2005, the Board of Directors approved a change of name from the Fondation canadienne des droits de la personne to Equitas International Centre for Human Rights Education. The name change did not imply a change of mission or vision or a new direction for the organization's programmes. On 5 June 2008, the Economic and Social Council Committee on NGOs took note of the name change.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Equitas sent representatives to the 2005, 2006 and 2007 annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women. In October 2008, its director attended a forum on civic partnership for citizenship and human rights education, which was organized by the Council of Europe in collaboration with OHCHR in Strasbourg.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

(a) Ongoing collaboration with OHCHR on the organization's annual international human rights training programme in Montreal, 2005-2008;

(b) Organization, with OHCHR, of an international human rights education evaluation symposium in Montreal, May 2007;

(c) Technical assistance to OHCHR on the development of a self-assessment tool for Governments regarding human rights education in the school system, 2008;

(d) Project with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Nepal, on building the capacity of the national human rights commission, 2003-2006;

(e) Collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, in the organization of two consultations for civil society in the former Soviet Union, one in Central Asia in 2006 and one in the southern Caucasus in 2007.

* Formerly Fondation canadienne des droits de la personne.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

All the organization's training and capacity-building programmes provided tools to enable people to participate in decision-making processes that affect development in their communities.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women. The organization's training sessions raised awareness about gender issues and helped to develop tools that fight gender discrimination. Gender equality is a cross-cutting theme in all its training programmes and specific modules.

With respect to other conferences and events, the organization's director of education helped to implement a project on education and promoting respect and diversity, which was organized by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The director served as a member of an experts group, whose task was to assess information and materials on intercultural, human rights and tolerance education received from OSCE participating States and to develop recommendations covering strategic and structural aspects of public education for education authorities in the OSCE region.

5. Navjyoti: Delhi Police Foundation for Correction, De-Addiction and Rehabilitation

Special, 1997

I. Introduction

The Foundation is a voluntary organization whose vision is to challenge social inequalities and empower the vulnerable by enabling them to help themselves. The Foundation reaches 10,000 beneficiaries every day through child education, women's empowerment, health care, drug de-addiction and counselling. During the reporting period, it began to promote solar energy in rural areas, with the help of universities and institutions, in an effort to address issues related to climate change. It also initiated the use of vermicompost, or composting utilizing various species of worms, in the rural community. In the area of health care, the organization started to work on maternal and child heath care, in order to raise awareness of health issues among community members.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization participated in the Business for the Environment Global Summit on environmental issues held in Singapore in April 2008. It presented its environmental projects and highlighted its experience working with companies to tackle climate change and other environmental issues.

B. Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals

To improve the learning levels of children, the organization worked with municipal primary schools to improve performance in the higher grades (Goal 2). It also initiated a maternal and child health-care project to enhance knowledge and skills relating to maternal and child health issues in the poor urban population (Goal 5). To sensitize and mobilize the community against HIV/AIDS, a project was initiated to spread awareness about the disease in the community (Goal 6).

Every year, the organization observes International Women's Day, World Water Day, World Health Day, World Environment Day, International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, International Literacy Day and World AIDS Day.

6. Zonta International

General, 1969

I. Introduction

Zonta International is a worldwide service organization of business executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women. There are currently more than 1,200 Zonta clubs in 67 countries. Zonta International envisions a world in which all women are guaranteed their legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional rights. Zonta International has had general consultative status with the Council since 1995. It also has consultative status with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), ILO and the Council of Europe, and official relations with UNESCO. It is accredited to the Department of Public Information and attends weekly briefings and the annual DPI/NGO conferences. Zonta International has official representatives at United Nations Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Geneva and at Vienna. Its representatives are members and active participants in the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the United Nations (CONGO) as well as the NGO Committees on the Status of Women at each location. They regularly attend the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Human Rights Council, ILO, the Economic and Social Council, UNESCO and the Council of Europe.

In New York, the chair of the Zonta International United Nations Committee is an active leader in non-governmental organization activities to support the goals of the United Nations. She serves as treasurer of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, convener of the NGO Committee on UNIFEM, co-chair of the NGO Committee on UNICEF and chair of the networking committee for the annual DPI/NGO conference. Zonta representatives in New York also attend meetings of the NGO Committee on UNICEF, with special attention to the Working Group on Girls, the NGO Committee on Mental Health, the Third Committee and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

In Vienna, the Zonta International representative focuses on the status of women, trafficking, narcotic drugs and ageing. In Geneva, special areas of interest include human rights, ILO and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. At UNESCO, its representatives work on education issues to promote human rights.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Zonta International seeks to advance the status of women by supporting efforts to prevent violence against women, improve their educational, economic, health and professional conditions, and advocate for the legislation of equal rights for women. Members of Zonta clubs volunteer their time, talents and energy to local and international service projects and advocacy initiatives that are designed to advance the status of women. They commit hundreds of thousands of service hours and

millions of dollars to a wide range of community services that strengthen and improve the well-being of women.

The Zonta International Foundation, Zonta International's philanthropic branch, further supports these efforts by raising and distributing funds for Zonta International programmes. During 2005-2008, it raised more than $5 million to support international programmes and projects worldwide. One of the charitable programmes of Zonta International funded by the Foundation is the "Zonta International strategies to prevent violence against women", which seeks to reduce the incidence of violence against women and girls by awarding grants for projects that seek to change personal and/or political attitudes and behaviour contributing to violence against women. Since the programme's inception in 1996, grants totalling more than $1 million have been awarded to support 33 projects in 20 countries.

Zonta International funded a project on cross-border cooperation to prevent trafficking in women, foster joint work by governmental and non-governmental organizations, and build upon the current efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia as well as previous projects in Serbia and Montenegro. Grants will be made to pairs of communities on either side of the borders joining Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, which will not only encourage non-governmental organizations to work together but also require matching funds from local governments and business.

The organization also helped to fund an initiative of women lawyers in the Niger aimed at building the capacity of judges and medical doctors to ensure the effective implementation of the law on the protection of victims of violence.

In Sri Lanka, it funded a project with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to improve the livelihood of communities affected by the tsunami, by improving the entrepreneurial and technical skills of women engaged in agriculture-based productive activities. In Bolivia, the organization funded an initiative with CARE, giving girls and young women ages 13 to 25 an opportunity to attend night school, in order to improve their status, well-being and opportunities. The project includes a special focus on women's health education, since the formal school curriculum does not adequately address this sensitive topic, as well as vocational training to develop marketable technical skills. The project will reach 1,300 young women. In the Niger, it continued to fund another CARE project that provides microcredit and health education to HIV/AIDS-affected women. Lastly, it gave a grant to a women's learning centre and health clinic in Mir Bacha Kot, Afghanistan, and the Afghan Institute of Learning to provide vocational skills training for approximately 650 women and girls each year in rural or poor urban settings.